

Chapter 8 Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impacts

8.1 Introduction

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Section 21100(b)(2) requires that any significant and unavoidable effect on the environment must be identified. In addition, Section 15093(a) of the CEQA *Guidelines* allows the decision-making agency to determine if the benefits of a proposed project outweigh the unavoidable adverse environmental impacts of implementing the project. Caltrans can approve a project with unavoidable adverse impacts if it prepares a "Statement of Overriding Considerations" setting forth the specific reasons for making such a judgment. However, as shown in Chapter 5.0 of this EIR/EA, the No Project/Action Alternative (AA), Flyover Interchange Design Alternative (AB) and Diamond Interchange Design Alternative (AC) will not result in any significant and unavoidable adverse impacts to the environment. Therefore, a statement of overriding considerations for significant unavoidable impacts associated with the interchange project is not necessary.